

périeures et inférieures sont noirâtres; la base des plumes est blanche; du blanc à la base du bec, au derrière de la tête et au col; les rémiges et les rectrices rayées transversalement de gris ardoisé; le dessous de l'aile rayé de blanchâtre et de noirâtre; les lignes des rectrices plus étroites; le dessous au côté interne presque blanc; quelques indices de taches rousses sur les couvertures inférieures de l'aile et aux cuisses."

*Correction.* I take this opportunity of correcting an error or misprint in one of my former papers: in 'The Ibis,' 1875, p. 365, the asterisk in line 6 should be affixed to "*poliocephalus*," not to "*haplochrous*."

[To be continued.]

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XXII.—*On Recent Ornithological Progress in New Guinea.*

By P. L. SCLATER.

IN my address last year to the Biological Section of the British Association at Bristol I gave a short summary of the information at that time accessible to us upon the ornithology of New Guinea. But so much has been added to our knowledge of this strange land even within the short period that has since passed that I propose to offer to the readers of this Journal some supplementary remarks upon the same subject. In Italy, Germany, and England alike, during the past six months there have appeared contributions of greater or less importance towards our knowledge of the Papuan avifauna, concerning each of which I propose to say a few words.

Commencing with the first-named country, we have an ornithological letter of Dr. O. Beccari\*, the quondam companion of D'Albertis, of the greatest interest, communicated by our ever active friend Dr. Salvadori. Dr. Beccari dates from Ternate on the 4th of last August, whither he had

\* "Lettera ornitologica di O. Beccari intorno agli Uccelli osservati durante un suo recente Viaggio alla Nuova Guinea," Ann. del Mus. Civ. di St. Nat. di Genova, vol. vii. p. 704 (1875). I am indebted to Mr. Elwes for writing out an English translation of this letter, of which I have largely availed myself.

just returned from New Guinea. Of this highly successful expedition a full account is given in the third volume of Cora's 'Cosmos,' from which we extract the following particulars\*. Beccari left Amboyna in the schooner 'Deli' on the 22nd January last year, and arrived at Salawatti on the 31st. The next day he crossed to Sorong on the opposite (western) coast of New Guinea, whence he made an excursion to Ramoi, and obtained a fine pair of *Casuaris uniappendiculatus*. From Sorong he proceeded along the north coast of New Guinea to Dorei Hum, where he ascended the adjoining mountain-range "Gunong Morait" to a height of about 1200 feet. On the top of the mountain he shot with his own gun two splendid specimens of *Dasyptilus pecqueti*, one of the rarest of the Parrots, of which the exact habitat was until recently quite uncertain. Not being sufficiently satisfied with the view into the interior from Gunong Morait, Beccari proceeded some miles further along the coast, to Has, and again ascended the mountain-range to the height of about 1000 feet. Thence he descended to the banks of a new and hitherto quite unknown river, the Wasamson, which appears to drain the south-western slope of the Arfak Mountains, and runs into the sea near Sorong. In this excursion the principal rarity obtained was *Seleucides alba*; but *Sericulus aureus*, *Gymnophaps albertisi*, and other scarce species were seen. Rejoining the schooner at Sorong, Beccari crossed to Wakkeré, at the south-eastern point of Waigiou, and remained four days in search of *Diphyllodes wilsoni*, of which, on the last day, one of his hunters obtained a fine male bird. He also obtained information of the existence here of an *Epimachus*, which will perhaps turn out to be *E. ellioti*, the habitat of which is unknown; and was told that the newly discovered *Diphyllodes gulielmi* III. is really from Sorong, and not from Waigiou, as is supposed by Dr. Meyer. Two days' voyage from Waigiou brought Beccari to Havre Dorey, whence, after an excursion to Andai, he again departed for a tour round the great Bay of Geelvink. From Dorey he first visited Momi and Warbusi, two places im-

\* "Recenti Spedizioni alla Nuova Guinea," Cosmos, vol. iii. p. 73.

mediately to the south. At Momi he bought a small living Cassowary, apparently of a new species, distinguishable by having a small median as well as two lateral throat-wattles, which he proposes to call *C. tricarunculatus*\* from this feature. It is not true, he observes, that, as Schlegel has stated, each Cassowary is limited to a certain district. At Dorey two species are certainly met with, of both of which he has obtained specimens. At Ansus, a port in the island of Jobi to which Beccari proceeded from Warbusi, are likewise probably two species†. In Jobi, Beccari also obtained a series of specimens of *Paradisea papuana*, slightly differing from those of the mainland of New Guinea, and examples of *Diphyllodes speciosa*, distinguished by their longer bills and the more brilliant yellow of the wings. These latter are, no doubt, referable to Mr. Gould's *D. chrysoptera*, spoken of below, of which therefore Jobi is the true patria. From Jobi Beccari sailed northwards to Kordo or Korido, and the adjoining islet of Sowek, thence westwards to Mafor, where a fine series of *Tanyptera carolinæ* was obtained, and from Mafor back to Dorey. From Dorey he made an excursion into the Arfak Mountains, where he spent a month, first at a station of about 5000 feet altitude, and then at another of about 3500 feet, rather lower than the place inhabited by D'Albertis. Beccari maintains that neither Rosenberg nor Meyer ever penetrated into these mountains. Rosenberg, he declares, never got further than the home of Hr. Waelders, a missionary at Andai, about a kilometre distant from the coast, although he proudly labelled his birds (as may be seen by reference to Schlegel's Catalogues), "Interior of the northern peninsula of New Guinea." Of Dr. Meyer, Beccari tells the same tale; Andai was likewise his furthest point visited personally. After D'Albertis and Beccari had left

\* Ann. Mus. di St. Nat. di Genova, vii. p. 717.

† One of these Dr. Salvadori describes as new, in a footnote, from a coloured sketch of Beccari's, under the name *Casuarius occipitalis* (op. s. c. p. 17). The other he supposes to be my *C. westermanni*. But is Dr. Salvadori sure that his *C. occipitalis* does not = my *C. westermanni*?  
—P. L. S.

Andai on the previous occasion, Hr. Waelders sent some Papuan boys up to Atam, and obtained a collection of bird-skins, which in March of the following year were acquired by Dr. Meyer. "It is, therefore, only Italian naturalists that have had the good fortune to hunt the most rare and most beautiful Paradise-birds in their native forests." The very first day of collecting at Atam, Beccari obtained two specimens of *Epimachus maximus*, two of *Astrapia gularis* (only found on the most elevated ridges, and almost always above 6000 feet in altitude), besides examples of *Drepanornis albertisi*, *Paradigalla carunculata*, *Parotia sexsetacea*, and various other wonderful species.

Beccari's departure from this true naturalist's Paradise was hastened by intelligence that the men on his schooner were sick, and that quarrels had arisen between them and the natives. Descending to Mansinam on the 18th of July, he left for Salawatti, and arrived there on the 21st. The 23rd he proceeded to Batanta, an island lying immediately to the north of Salawatti, and remained there four days. Returning thence to Ternate in haste, on account of the sickness of his crew, Beccari was able to stop only 30 hours at Koffiao (called Poppa or Pope on the charts), but obtained thirty bird-skins in this little-known Moluccan island, amongst which were those of *Tanysiptera ellioti*\*, a *Pitta*, and *Rhipidura vidua*.

The collections amassed during this most successful expedition have not yet arrived in Italy, or at any rate are not yet worked out. But we are told that they were sufficient to fill twenty-one cases, of which six contained birds, and that the Papuan birds exceed 2000 in number. In his ornithological letter above referred to, Dr. Beccari gives the following details respecting the principal rarities.

"Having referred to my journey, I will tell you what I think are the most remarkable in my collection of birds. I obtained several birds of prey, not including, however, *Astur leucosoma*, which is not rare at Mansinam (three specimens are in Bruijn's collection). Of the Owls there are, with mine

\* Sharpe's Mon. pl. 105, where the locality given is "Mysol."



and those of Mr. Bruijn, a good number; but three species in his collection are wanting in mine. I did my best to obtain many specimens of *Podargus*; but, though not rare, they are difficult birds to find, as they have the habit of sitting lengthways on the large branches of trees, and in that position are hard to see, as also on account of their colour, which much resembles the lichen-covered bark of the trees. I firmly believe that *Coracias papuensis* is not a Papuan bird; but I do not think I can say the same of *Eurystomus gularis*, which, if I mistake not\*, is a bird common enough in New Guinea (some specimens are larger and deeper in colour). *Peltops blainvillii* is fairly abundant in the mountains from 2000 to 3000 feet; but it is also found in plains near the sea, as at Ramoi. I believe that I have found all the Alcedinidæ which are known in New Guinea: among these are several specimens of *Melidora macrorrhina*, and some of *Halcyon nigrocyanea* and of *Alcyone pusilla*: all these are species which are not very numerous. Of *Tanysiptera nympha* I could only get one specimen. It is not very rare among the mangroves near Ramoi, and in the low places surrounding it. On several occasions it was met with by my hunters without their being able to kill it. It is wanting near Dorey, but reappears at Rubi, in the south of the Bay of Geelvink, a locality which seems very interesting, and which I was sorry not to have visited, because several species which are only known from Salwatti and Sorong are found there, among others *Seleucides alba*. *Tanysiptera riedeli* is common at Kordo; at Mafor I obtained many splendid specimens of *Tanysiptera carolinæ*. I think I have found all the new species of Meliphagidæ recently described from Mount Arfak, except *Myzomela cruentata*, one specimen of which is in Bruijn's collection. Of *Orthonyx novæ-guinææ* I got male and female; the sexual difference is remarkable. The three species of *Eupetes* are represented by good specimens. I have two of *Melanopitta lugubris*, and several of *Pitta rosenbergi*,

\* Certainly Beccari is mistaken. He doubtless intends to speak of *Eurystomus pacificus*, and perhaps of another blue species, of which I have seen several specimens.—T. S.

also of *Pitta maforeana*, though I stayed a very short time at Mafor. *Sericulus aureus* I killed on the same fig-tree near Atam where D'Albertis obtained the greater part of his birds. It has much the same habits as a bird of *Paradisea*, lives on fruits, especially on figs; one does not find more than two or three individuals together, usually only one male and one female; the young males and females are very different in colour; the iris is clear straw-yellow. It is a very lively and shy bird; when the male is killed the female and another, perhaps a young male, return again to their food on the same tree, and then are seen no more. Although it is found at an elevation of 3000 feet or more, it seems more abundant in the hills near the sea, but is always most difficult to find, because in each of the localities which it frequents there are only a few pairs. Its song, according to my hunters, has much resemblance to the 'zigolio' of the Nectarinias, but rather more strong and sonorous. Only the crest of feathers on the head is erectile. The Arfaks call it 'Komeida.' I have a great series of specimens of *Machæorhynchus*. There is also a violet-coloured species\*. The *Monachella saxicolina* is abundant by the torrents of Arfak, but only in those near the sea. I have, however, only a pair of specimens. I have the three kinds of *Todopsis*; of *T. grayi* there is a single one in Bruijn's collection. Of the genera *Rhipidura* and *Monarcha* I think I want several species; but I have got together a fine series. At Kordo I obtained *Monarcha brehmi*. The genera *Pachycephala* and *Campephaga* are very richly represented. *Artamus maximus* is very common from 3000 to 5000 feet, and has the same habits as *A. papuensis*; it is enough to say that it flies like a Swallow, and sits on the branches of dead trees, especially in the middle of plantations. I have only got one or two specimens, because, through some fatality, I missed all the shots I fired at this bird. I do not believe that *Cracticus crassirostris* is a good species; but you will be able to judge better from the various specimens you will have to examine. *Gymnocorvus senex* is a very common bird, and goes in flocks

\* Probably this is a new species.—T. S.

of from eighteen to twenty or more ; after the first shot they become very shy : they are seldom killed by the hunters, because they look on them as dull and uninteresting birds, and because they are infested with an immense number of little parasites, which spread in all directions, and cause a most unpleasant itching. As to the Paradise-birds, I have obtained all the species belonging to the region. At Ansus I got two specimens of *Diphyllodes chrysoptera*, which seems to be found also at Amberbaki and elsewhere. It seems most improbable to me that *Diphyllodes gulielmi-tertii* should be found at Waigiou, because the type specimen (which I have seen) was, if I do not mistake, prepared in the manner of the Alfuros of New Guinea, and was acquired at Salwatti from a 'Bugis Nakoda' (captain of a Celebes boat), to whom it had most likely come from Has. It seems to me hardly probable that the female is the bird that has been described as such. I have had information of this bird at Wa-Samson ; and it is not improbable that it may also be found at Salwatti. The *Epimachi* have been separated from the other birds of Paradise ; but I think this is paradoxical. The form and length of the beak of *Epimachus maximus* is most variable ; the young males and females are found with the beak only half the length of that of the adult males and females. This fact made me think at first that I had found the female of *Epimachus ellioti* ; but I was mistaken. An *Epimachus* seems to be found at Waigiou, and will probably be *E. ellioti* ; but I was not able to return there as I had intended. *Epimachus maximus* and *Astrapia gularis* are only found on the highest and most difficult peaks of Mount Arfak, nearly always above 6000 feet elevation. Specimens in dark plumage are common enough ; but those which have attained perfect plumage are rare, perhaps because they take some years to acquire it. Both of them live on the fruits of certain *Pandanaceæ*, and especially on those of the *Freycinetiæ*, which are epiphytous on the trunks of trees. The irides of the large *Epimachus* are dark brick-red, those of the *Astrapia* almost black ; the neck-feathers of the latter are erectable, and expand into a magnificent collar round the head. The

first day I went out at Atam on June 23, I got both these species (two specimens of each), besides one *Drepanornis albertisi*, three *Paradigallæ*, one *Parotia*, and several other wonderful kinds of birds. It was a memorable day, because I also ascended one of the peaks, and was surprised to find myself surrounded by four or five species of *Vaccinium* and *Rhododendron*. I also found an Umbellifer (a *Drymis*) and various other plants common to the mountains of Java. There were also some mosses a foot and a half in height. But I must speak to you of birds, and not let myself be distracted from the Paradise-birds.

“The Arfaks call *Astrapia gularis* ‘Haroma,’ and the adult *Epimachus maximus* ‘Kambiloja;’ the young ones and females are called ‘Lessoa.’ *Drepanornis* is well known to the Arfaks under the name of ‘Sagroja;’ it is not very rare, but difficult to find, because, as the hunters assure me, it has no peculiar cry, so that it is only met with by chance. Its inconspicuous colour also makes it difficult to see. It is partial to places near recent clearings, from 3000 to 5000 feet, as it has the habit of flying to dead trees and fallen trunks, about which it finds the insects which form its food. In the stomachs of the two specimens I dissected I found only insects of various orders, ants predominating, and the larvæ of a Lepidopterous insect. The iris of the adult male is virescent brown. I preserved a male which was in bad condition in spirit for anatomical study. As to *Paradigalla carunculata*, I shot one from my hut whilst it was eating the small fleshy fruits of an *Urtica*. It likes to sit on the tops of dead and leafless trees, like the *Mino dumonti*. The finest ornament of this bird are the wattles, which in the dried skin lose all their beauty. The upper ones, which are attached one on each side of the forehead, are of a yellowish green colour; those at the base of the lower mandible are blue, and have a small patch of orange red beneath. The Arfaks call the *Paradigalla* ‘Happoa.’ Of *Parotia searpennis* I got one adult male alive; but it only lived three days. Its eye, with the iris azure surrounded by a yellow ring, is extremely beautiful. The six feathers which ornament the head are



not raised up vertically, but moved backwards and forwards in a horizontal and oblique direction, and are moved forward parallel to the sides of the beak. It is the commonest Paradise-bird at Mount Arfak ; but, as usual, the adult males are much scarcer than the females and young males.

“*Lophorina atra* is rather rarer than *Parotia* ; but I must tell you that the abundance of fruit-eating birds in a given locality depends principally on the season at which certain kinds of fruit are ripe ; therefore a species may be common in a place one month, and become rare or completely disappear in the next, when the season of the fruit on which it lives has passed.

“*Diphyllodes speciosus* is also pretty common, and easy to kill when one has learnt to know its song, which resembles a kind of ‘teia-teia-teia’ repeated several times with diminishing force. The sound produced by kissing the palm of the hand is a very good imitation. When once you have heard the song, if you approach carefully, especially early in the morning, you will find some small spaces about a yard and a half in diameter cleared of sticks and leaves, where one or two males are paying court to a female. The males then erect all their feathers ; the skin of the neck swells up like a bladder ; the head seems like the centre of an aureola, which is formed beneath by the expanded feathers of the breast, and above by those of the yellow mantle, which are carried in a perfectly vertical position and spread like a fan. I kept a bird of this species alive for some days. It is found sometimes at little distance from the sea, on the plains, but perhaps more often on the hills at 1000 to 2000 feet of elevation, preferring open places and the vicinity of streams.

“*Diphyllodes wilsoni* is almost identical in habits with the last. I only got one specimen at Waigiou and five at Batanta, which were found very near the sea. Of both of these species I have preserved in spirit those which were not in good plumage.

“*Seleucides alba* is one of the Paradise-birds most difficult to procure. It is common enough at Salwatti ; but the natives

always prevented my hunters from going to the places where it is easy to shoot.

“The eggs of *Ptilorhis superbus* have been found by one of Signor Bruijn’s hunters. The nest was in the branches of a tree called at Ternate ‘Kaju Tjapilong,’ which is the *Calophyllum inophyllum*. At present I have not the eggs before me; so I will write about them more fully another time, when I have been able to examine the man who found them.

“Of *Paradisea rubra* I have only got some young specimens from Waigiou, and others from Batanta, but none in perfect plumage.

“The form of the trachea of *Manucodia keraudreni* is most variable; and the number of circumvolutions seems to change with age, and to be a peculiarity of the male. On the labels of those examined by me I have marked whether or not they had the trachea external.

“The *Buceros ruficollis* of New Guinea has the neck of a much lighter colour than those from Ceram and Amboyna.

“My collection of Papuan Psittacidæ is very rich, and nearly complete. You will find three specimens of *Dasyptilus pecqueti*, two of which, females, were killed at Gunon Morait, near Has; the other, a male, on Mount Arfak. It lives on fruit, and prefers that of a species of *Sterculia*, as I noted at Gunon Morait, tearing the pericarp to get at the seeds. It often goes in pairs, but sometimes in parties of three or four. When alone it makes a loud and very harsh cry, which can be heard at a great distance. Its tongue is not papillose or brush-like, but callous. It is often kept in confinement, but does not live long. It is very voracious, and may be fed on bananas. Sometimes it descends to the plains, but generally prefers the mountains from 2000 to 3000 feet. It has such a tough skin that an ordinary charge of shot has little effect on it, and it is usually only brought down by a blow on the head or a broken wing. Most of the living birds, as well as the skins prepared by natives, are got by the Ternate merchants at Salwatti; but all come from Has, and I do not yet know whether the bird inhabits Salwatti. I was able to get specimens of several kinds of *Nasiterna*. I shot some myself;

and when one knows their haunts they are not difficult to find. Their habit is to climb about the trunks of trees and along the lianas. They are often caught alive by the Papuans in the hollow trees where they make their nest. *Nasiterna geelvinkiana* seems to me very distinct, on account of its spiny tail. The species which inhabits Mount Arfak also seems to be separable. I did not get *Cyclopsitta gulielmi-tertii*; but several skins of it are in Bruijn's collection. Among the *Charmosynæ* I found *C. arfaki* common enough. Though it seems strange, it is nevertheless true, that the green *Eclecti* are males of the red ones. I learnt this at Aru from my hunters; and the young have the same difference. Is *Microglossum alecto* different from *M. aterrimum*?

"At Kordo I found a most beautiful *Centropus*. Of *Cuculus leucolophus* I got one specimen, and there is another in Bruijn's collection. It is one of the rarest birds of the north-west peninsula of New Guinea. *Chrysococcyx meyeri*, Salvad., seems to be found at Salwatti and at Kordo. If, however, the specimens from that place do not belong to another species, they are slightly different.

"I paid special attention to the Pigeons, because they are rarely preserved by the Ternate hunters, being too difficult to skin, and too good to eat. Besides *Ptilonopi bellus*, *miquelii*, *speciosus*, *musschenbroeckii*, *ornatus*, *pectoralis*, *humeralis*, &c., I found *P. aurantiifrons* and another, which I had found at Aru. One, however, is unknown to me, viz. *P. jobiensis*, of which there is one bad skin in Bruijn's collection. *Carpophaga chalconota* seems a good species. It is abundant at Atam; but I did not preserve many specimens, as it was the principal resource of my table.

"Of *Gymnophaps albertisi* I only got two specimens. It is a very rare species, though Sig. Bruijn's hunters got it, and also those of the missionaries at Andai and Dorey. *Henicophaps albifrons* is a scattered species, and in some localities not very rare, as also *Eutrygon terrestris*, which is more common at Salwatti than elsewhere. I really think that there is more than one species of *Chalcophaps*. *C. stefani* is the commonest; another kind I found at Miosnom and at

Koffiao. A terrestrial Pigeon found at Ansus by Sig. Bruijn's hunters, and another very small terrestrial species of *Atam*, are both of them on the whole nearest to *Chalcophaps*, and probably new. The queen of all the Papuan Pigeons is *Otidiphaps nobilis*, which, though rare, is found in various localities, generally close to the sea. It was seen by my hunters at Dorey, and is found at Andai and Batanta, and seems to have been this year discovered at Mysol. On Mount Arfak it is not rare. It has the habits of a Pheasant, and is very shy; its note is loud, and resembles that of *Megapodius*. I have got two specimens of this bird; the flesh is white and excellent; it might be easily introduced into Europe, as it endures a rather low temperature. Near my hut at Atam there were a couple, though the morning temperature was often as low as 10° to 11° Cent. It lives on fleshy fruits, which, in the gizzards of those I examined, belonged to a Myrtaceous plant and to a *Syzygium*, and were mixed with many pebbles.

"At Jobi I naturally found *Goura victoriae*, but not so abundantly as I hoped. It is also found at Kordo and at Sowek, but not at Miosnom or Mafor. It is certainly in error that Wallace, 'Malay Arch.' ii. 190, cites *G. coronata* as an inhabitant of the Aru Islands. I think I told you that a *Goura* was killed in the woods near my house at Amboyna, and a Cassowary near the same place; but I cannot be sure that they had not been in captivity and had escaped to the woods.

"*Talegallus jobiensis* and *Megapodius geelvinkianus* are easy to be distinguished when alive; but when the skins are dry you might easily doubt their being good species. I found a nest of *Talegallus* or *Megapodius* at more than 6000 feet elevation."

So much for Dr. Beccari's ornithological letter, one of the most interesting contributions to our favourite science that I have ever read. We must now turn to Dr. Salvadori's account of Bruijn's collection, to which frequent reference has been made by Beccari. This, as Dr. Salvadori informs



us\*, consists of 404 skins, belonging to 158 species, mostly from Halmaheira and New Guinea. Many of the new species recently described by Meyer and myself from the Arfak Mountains are contained in it, and there are besides many novelties of special interest, such as :—*Nasiterna bruijni*, a new pigmy Parrot from the Arfak Mountains, making the fourth of this extraordinary genus; *Megalestes albonotatus*, a new form of Muscicapidæ allied to *Philentoma* from the same locality; and a new *Ptilonopus* (*P. geminus*) from Jobi.

We must now pass on to the opposite extremity of New Guinea, and see what D'Albertis, who has established himself in a little island off the main coast, called Yule Island†, has been doing to advance ornithological science. Of D'Albertis's adventures we have several accounts :—first, his letters in Cora's 'Cosmos,' in the article already referred to; secondly, some letters that have been published by Dr. Bennett in the 'Sydney Morning Herald' of December 21st last, and of which Dr. Bennett has kindly sent me a copy; and thirdly, the account of his first collections in this district‡, which has just been published by Salvadori. D'Albertis travelled by the Queensland mail from Batavia to Somerset, Cape York. After some weeks' sojourn there, he left on the 5th of March last, and, after touching at various islands in Torres Straits, arrived at Roro or Yule Island, situated on the coast of New Guinea at the entrance to Hall Bay (lat. 8° 50' S., long. 146° 32' E.), on the 16th of the same month. Here he fixed his headquarters for exploring the opposite mainland, and has already succeeded in sending home several important collections, and making many noteworthy discoveries. Of his first ornithological exploits we have already

\* "Catalogo di una collezione di uccelli del gruppo di Halmaheira e di varie località della Papuasias, inviati in dono al Museo Civico di Genova dal Sig. A. A. Bruijn." Per T. Salvadori. Ann. Mus. Civ. Genova, vii. p. 749 (1875).

† See letter from D'Albertis in P. Z. S. 1875, p. 530.

‡ "Catalogo di una collezione di uccelli dell' Isola Yule e della vicina costa della penisola orientale della Nuova Guinea raccolti da L. M. D'Albertis." Per T. Salvadori e L. M. D'Albertis. Ann. del Mus. Civ. di Genova, vii. p. 797.

an excellent account in the paper above mentioned. The collection contained 222 specimens, belonging to 85 species, amongst which 9 appear to be new to science. Besides the novelties there are other species worthy of special notice, such as further examples of the large bird of prey recently described by Salvadori as *Harpyopsis novæ-guinææ*\*, skins of *Rhipidura leucothorax*, hitherto only known from Atam, and a fine series of *Paradisea raggiana*, the southern representative of *P. papuanæ*.

The Crowned Pigeon of this part of New Guinea is certainly quite distinct from *Goura coronata* and *G. victoriæ*. In the present paper Dr. Salvadori refers it to Finsch's recently described *G. scheepmakeri* (P. Z. S. 1875, p. 631, pl. lxviii.); and such, indeed, was fully my opinion after examining D'Albertis's specimens, which I had an opportunity of doing when in Genoa last autumn. Dr. Salvadori, however, as he writes to me, has recently changed his opinion, and has come to the conclusion that D'Albertis's bird is distinct, and has proposed to call it after its discoverer. One striking feature of D'Albertis's collection is the presence in it of many birds hitherto only known to occur in Northern Australia, such as *Astur cruentus*, *Cyanalcyon macleayi*, *Lamprococcyx lucidus*, *Myiagra concinna*, *Chlamydodera cerviniventris*, and other well-known species. This might have been fully expected from the close proximity of the two coasts.

We must now turn to Germany, and see what our Teutonic brethren have contributed towards our knowledge of the avifauna of New Guinea during the past six months. Dr. A. B. Meyer, who, since his return from the East, has received the well-merited appointment of Director of the Royal Zoological Museum of Dresden, has inaugurated his rule by the commencement of a new periodical devoted to the illustration of the collections under his charge†. The first number of this

\* Ann. Mus. Civ. vii. p. 682.

† Mittheilungen aus dem k. zoologischen Museum zu Dresden; herausgegeben mit Unterstützung der Generaldirection der königl. Sammlungen für Kunst und Wissenschaft von Dr. A. B. Meyer. Heft I. Dresden: 1875.

journal commences with some ornithological contributions from the editor's pen. The newly discovered Bird of Paradise, *Diphyllodes gulari-tertius*, is first described, and figured in a plate to which we cannot accord much praise. Dr. Beccari's doubts about the true habitat of this species have already been alluded to. Dr. Meyer gives it as Waigiou; but Dr. Beccari believes the species to be from Salawatti or the adjacent district of New Guinea. Then follow descriptions of four new Papuan birds, two of which are of great interest as belonging to the northern genera *Parus* and *Budytes*. The discovery of these forms in the Arfak Mountains is of special interest when taken in connexion with Beccari's having found northern plants (*Vaccinium* and *Rhododendron*) on the same mountains. Other notes upon rare Papuan species, amongst which are additional remarks upon the red and green Parrots of the genus *Eclectus*, terminate Dr. Meyer's most acceptable memoir.

Herr von Rosenberg, the German naturalist who made such splendid collections for the Leyden Museum, has also lately issued a very interesting account of his two excursions to New Guinea during his travels in the Eastern Archipelago. The memoir is in Dutch, and is published at the Hague by the Geographical and Ethnological Society of the Netherlands Indies\*. Herr von Rosenberg's first journey to New Guinea was at the end of 1868, when he left Ternatè in the month of December, and went to Sorong and Dorey. Thence he made an excursion to the islands in the Bay of Geelvink, Soek, Biak, Mefoor, and Jobie, or "Jappen," as he terms it, and returned to Ternate in July 1869. The second visit to New Guinea was made in 1870, when large collections were made at Andai, and Herr von Rosenberg's hunters penetrated into the Arfak Mountains, and obtained the many novelties which were described by Prof. Schlegel in his 'Obser-

\* Reistochten naar de Geelvinkbaai op Nieuw-Guinea in de Jaren 1869 en 1870 door C. B. H. von Rosenberg, ambtenaar belast met wetenschappelijke onderzoekingen Nederlandsch-Indie. Uitgegeven door het Koninklijk Instituut voor de Taal-, Land-, en Volkenkunde van Nederlandsch-Indie. Met Kaarten en Afbeeldingen. 'S-Gravenhage: Martinus Nijhoff. 1875. 1 vol. 4to, pp. 154.

vations Zoologiques.' A number of nicely drawn lithographic plates accompany the work, amongst which are reduced coloured figures of *Tanysiptera carolinæ*, *T. riedeli*, *Ptilopus speciosus*, *Trichoglossus rosenbergi*, *Pachycephala schlegeli*, and *Myzomela rosenbergi*, all new birds discovered during these two journeys. There is also a coloured figure of the head of *Casuaris papuanus* (which may perhaps after all turn out to be not different from *C. westermanni*, nobis\*), and an outline of the head of *Drepanornis albertisi* under Hr. von Rosenberg's name of "*Epimachus veithii*," which, as I have already pointed out in this Journal ('Ibis,' 1874, p. 187), has no real claim to priority. Finally, there is a useful chart of the Bay of Geelvink and its islands.

There remains now to be noticed what has been done in this country since last August towards the elucidation of the Papuan avifauna. Mr. Gould, having long since completed his 'Supplement to the Birds of Australia,' has now commenced a second supplement to his great work, in conjunction with a series of illustrations of the birds of New Guinea and the adjacent islands†. Of this the first two parts have appeared, one dated 1875, and the other 1876. They contain life-sized figures in Mr. Gould's usual style, of the following species :—

#### PART I. (1875).

- Peltops blainvillii*. New Guinea.
- Parotia sexpennis*. New Guinea.
- Drepanornis albertisi*. New Guinea.
- Ailurædus melanotis*. Papuan Islands.
- *arfakianus*. Arfak Mountains.
- *maculosus*. Queensland.
- *buccoides*. New Guinea and Waigiou.
- Climacteris placens*. New Guinea.
- Aprosmictus insignissimus*. Darling Downs, Queensland.
- Cyclopsitta naccoyi*. Rockingham Bay, Queensland.

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\* Cf. P. Z. S. 1875, p. 84.

† The Birds of New Guinea and the adjacent Papuan Islands, including any new species that may be discovered in Australia. By John Gould, F.R.S. &c. Parts I. & II. Folio. 1875-76.



*Collocalia terræ-reginæ*. Rockingham Bay, Queensland.  
*Xerophila pectoralis*. Port Augusta, S. Australia.  
*Sericornis minimus*. Australia.

PART II. (1876).

*Charmosyna papuensis*. Atam, New Guinea.  
*Diphyllodes gulielmi-tertii*. Mountains of Eastern Waigiou.  
— *speciosa*. New Guinea.  
— *chrysoptera*. Waigiou.  
*Pitta maxima*. Gilolo.  
*Melampitta lugubris*. New Guinea.  
*Campephaga strenua*. Atam, Arfak Mountains.  
*Melithreptus lætior*. Australia.  
*Ptilotis frenata*. Cardwell district, Queensland.  
— *flavostriata*. Rockingham Bay, Queensland.  
*Rhipidura dryas*. Australia (North-western).  
*Ptilonopus nanus*. Triton Bay, New Guinea: Mysol.  
*Amytis goyderi*. S. Australia.

The only other English work bearing upon New Guinea that has lately appeared is Captain Moresby's account of his surveys of the south-eastern and northern coasts\*. There is nothing strictly ornithological in this volume; but it will be read with interest by those who study the fauna of Papua as giving accurate geographical details about many little-known localities, and as containing the only map we know of in which "Yule Island," D'Albertis's headquarters, is correctly marked.

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XXIII.—*Notes on a Collection of Birds from the New Hebrides.* By H. B. TRISTRAM, F.R.S.

I HAVE lately received, through the kindness of Rev. J. Inglis, who has been for many years a missionary at Aneiteum, in the New Hebrides, a small consignment of birds and eggs collected at Aneiteum, Aniwa, and Erromanga. It may be of some little interest to give a list of the collection, inas-

\* Discoveries and Surveys in New Guinea and the D'Entrecasteaux Islands, a cruise in Polynesia and visits to the Pearl-shelling stations in Torres Straits of H.M.S. 'Basilisk.' By Captain John Moresby, R.N. London: Murray. 1876. 1 vol. 8vo.